



The Dirt Devils Digest

September 2015

A monthly publication of the Dirt Devils

<http://www.dirtdevils.org/>

Presidents Message:

There has been some conversation about looking for another meeting place, we are out growing our current location and because it is open at one side it is a bit noisy. Premier Jeep in Placentia maybe and option I will investigate. Please keep your eyes and ears open for other options.

I would like to ask, if you join CORVA put on your application that you are a member of the Dirt Devils. I would like to see our club recognized as a CORVA sponsor.

The Blue Cow bell is missing if you have it please bring it to the next meeting. It now goes to Bill Smith.

Kids on Public Lands is a very worthwhile event and to show our support the Dirt Devils have donated \$200 to "kids on public lands".

November is next years run planning meeting. Start making plans. At the September meeting I asked what type of runs we wanted:

- 17 voted for Easy runs
- 34 voted for Moderate runs
- 29 voted for Difficult runs



- 37 voted for Day trips
- 35 voted for Weekend trips
- 19 voted for Expedition trips i.e. North Rim, camping out of the back of your rig for days or a week at a time.

See you on the trail.

Ray Kleinhuizen

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Cal 4 Wheel

I believe this sums up the forest service attitude towards people using our public lands.

Donn Christiansen was recently asked via email why close down Carveacre road (16S03) an offroad trail in San Diego County. Carveacre road (16S03) off of Japatul/Lyons Valley Road is on Forest Service land. This trail has been used by offroaders for year. Donn's reply was:

"This section of road is under review for decommissioning related to a Forest ecological restoration project due to resource concerns and unauthorized routes."

"We do have a designated OHV area at Corral Canyon that is available for public use. Maps and information are available online at the Cleveland National Forest website or at the District office in Alpine, CA."

Donn Christiansen
Forest Service District Ranger
Cleveland NF, Descanso RD
p: 619-445-6235 x73415
c: 619-517-6275
dchristiansen@fs.fed.us
3348 Alpine Blvd Alpine, CA 91901
www.fs.fed.us

"Caring for the land and serving people"

10 reasons to be a trail leader:

- 10 – You pick the trail (hopefully someone will want to run it with you)
- 9 – You pick the run start time and meet spot
- 8 - You write the run announcement
- 7 - You pick the CB channel (duh 4)
- 6 - You conduct the drivers meeting (best if done before you start the trail)
- 5 – You carry the Dirt Devils club first aid kit (hopefully you know how to use it)
- 4 – You pick the bathroom stops (more stops keep you out trouble)
- 3 – You are the spotter when someone needs help (you'll get a lot of exercise)
- 2 – You will get unwavering support from all drivers even when you are hopelessly lost and confused.
- 1 – You get to ride in front of everyone out of the dust (this the only good reason to be a trail lead)

Trail Tools

We all know it's important to carry tools in case something breaks when we are on the trail. We also know that spare parts can be the difference between walking

and driving off the trail. The question is: will we be able to perform a trail fix that's not straight forward? These are important issues we all should think about before each run. The fact is, if you 4-wheel, on any level of difficulty trail, sooner or later you will be faced with a trail fix situation! Close scrutiny above and below your rig will reduce the likelihood. Loose screws, nuts and bolts.

But what tools and spare parts should we bring? Most of us have limited space for tools and spare parts in our rigs. Therefore we bring tools and spare parts that we hope will fix whatever breaks so that we can be back on the trail in minimal time. Knowledge of your vehicle is very important when selecting tools and spare parts. It's a good idea, if possible to pack a separate tool kit specifically for your 4 wheeling vehicle. A good way to determine if you have the right tools in your kit is to do some basic maintenance on the vehicle using only tools from your take along tool kit. This will give you a good idea of how much you can accomplish with that tool kit and what items need to be added.

A sample list of items in a trail tool kit is identified below. Your knowledge of your vehicle should help you edit the list to include the tools and spare parts that could be needed on the trail. No matter how prepared you are, a failure can still ruin your day because it's not practical or possible to carry every spare part that might be needed.

Recommended trail tools:

1. Socket Set (some vehicles use both standard & metric), ratchet and extensions
2. Combination wrenches (some vehicles use both standard & metric)
3. Vise grips
4. Adjustable jaw pliers and channel locks
5. Crescent Wrench
6. Spark plug wrench
7. Screwdrivers (Standard & Philips)
8. Hammer 9. Bottle Jack
10. Utility Knife
11. Hacksaw
12. Latex Gloves
13. Tire plug kit
14. Hacksaw
15. Rags
16. Funnel
17. Flashlight / work light (extra batteries)
18. Ratchet straps
19. Cordless tools (impact driver, saw, etc.)

Spare parts and consumables:

The extreme situations: carry no spare parts, or carry so many your rig breaks due to the extra weight. What you need to do is get somewhere in the middle by carrying parts that are most likely to fix your broken rig. If you have knowledge of your vehicle, any special items can be

added. If your rig has a history of U joint issues carry a spare.

Sample Spare parts list: add or subtract as needed!

1. Fuses, electrical wire, electrical tape, duct tape, nylon wire ties, silicon sealer
2. Miscellaneous nuts, bolts and hardware
3. Fan belts, hose, clamps
4. Valve stems, tire plugs
5. Engine oil, brake fluid, transmission fluid, etc.
6. Coolant or water for the radiator

Once you have everything together, you need to determine how to store them in your vehicle. A permanently installed tool box or a carry-on tool bag / box that can be secured to the vehicle are good choices.

A breakdown will likely include crawling under the vehicle and messy parts. Bring a blanket, towel or plastic trash bag that you can lay on. They also help keep parts and tools away from the dirt.

Many breakdowns can be fixed on the trail with some tools, spare parts and knowledge of the vehicle. Keep an open mind when the fix is not straight forward. Many vehicles have been driven off the trail with unique fixes. A ratchet strap can be used to keep an axle in place to drive off the trail. (I have personal experience) A high lift jack handle and hose clamps can straighten and splint a bent tie rod.

With some forethought and preparation you should be able to deal with a wide range of common trail fixes. The big plan here is to safely get you off the trail after a breakdown.

Adopt a Trail

Hours 412

At the last run we worked the bypass, moved a few rocks, cut some brush back and picked up trash.

Motorcycles have created a single track by pass around the waterfall. Greg (ranger) has recommended that we look and build an easy by pass around the water fall.

Last weekend august 29th led 45 rigs around Big Bear back country. It was a lot of fun to see some of the closed down areas.

Run reports

4x4 clinic August 15th

15 rigs made their way along gold Mtn trail. The trail was a bit busy but the attendees felt they learned a lot.

2nd adopta trail

Rick led a run to check out a second trail. Rick is recommending that we adopta a 2nd trail. He has found a good one and would not take as much work as the current

one. Will bring up next month for a vote to take on as a second trail. The trail is "Sparks Ranch Road" east of Baldwin Lake. The trail is basically a dirt road that has a couple of rocky places. The reason that Rick picked that one was for the intermediate and new people. Jesse noted that on the web site it shows as assigned but Rick has been talking to Greg who said that it is open and they did not see any club signs on it. Initial effort would be "all hands" to get it up to snuff and then after that is just maintenance. The trail is five miles long. Question on amount of time. Ray noted that we're at almost 500 hours on the current trail and while this one likely would not take as much time, its a good amount to use as a guide. Rick does not think it will take as much maintenance. Greg wants to control coming off the road using this trail. It may need some barriers. It was graded at one time but has not been graded for several years. It is a blue route, which is usually graded about once every ten years. Ray suggests to schedule another run to allow people to take another look. There needs to be a core group willing to take this one separate from Dishpan Springs.

Run Calendar

Adopt a Trail meeting place

8:30am at Rocky's Roadhouse
32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382
next to the 76 gas station

September

11th – 13th Kennedy Meadows Sherman Pass, Monache Meadow

Run Date: Sept. 12, 2015

Trail Leader: Danny Ward
(Cell 714-651-9717) d41ward@sbcglobal.net

Meeting Location: Troy Meadow Campground Entry

Meeting Time: 7:45 am – Leaving at 8:00 am.

Directions to Pearsonville, Ca.: Starting at CA-91 east bound toward the I-15, take I-15 north toward Barstow 43.3 miles. Take exit **141** to merge onto **US-395 north** toward Bishop/Adelanto 98.3 miles. Take the ramp onto **US- 395 north** 7.3 miles to Pearsonville, Ca.

Special Note: Pearsonville, CA. is the last chance for **Gas**. Pearsonville elevation is 2513 and going to Troy Meadow elevation of 7800 is a little bit of a climb.

Directions to Troy Meadow Campground: From Pearsonville take US Rt. 395 north 2.6 miles to Kennedy Meadow sign. Turn left at sign onto Nine-mile Canyon Road and go 24.6 miles to a "Y" intersection. Bear left onto Sherman Pass Road and go 10.3 miles to campground sign. Turn right at sign into campground.

Special Equipment Required: Minimum 31" tires but could have trouble. High ground clearance vehicle required and rear lockers.

Trails Description: Sherman Pass 4 wheel drive road is narrow, rocky, and steep. Road is difficult terrain, expert 4WD techniques required. Not suitable for long wheel base vehicles. (6.8 miles)

Permits: "Forest Adventure Pass" is needed to park along this trail.

Reminder to Bring: Camera, Warm Clothing, Chair, Lunches, etc.

Weekend Plan: I'm leaving Friday the 11th and tent camping Friday and Saturday nights at Troy Meadow Campground.

19th Adopt A Trail - Josh

26th Last Saturday of September 1:00pm at the Big Bear Discovery Center, Adopt a Trail BBQ if attending RSVP to Angela Cook angcook@pacbell.net

19th & 21th Sand Sport Show Costa Mesa

Fair Grounds

<http://www.sandsportssupershow.com/>

19th & 20th KOPL

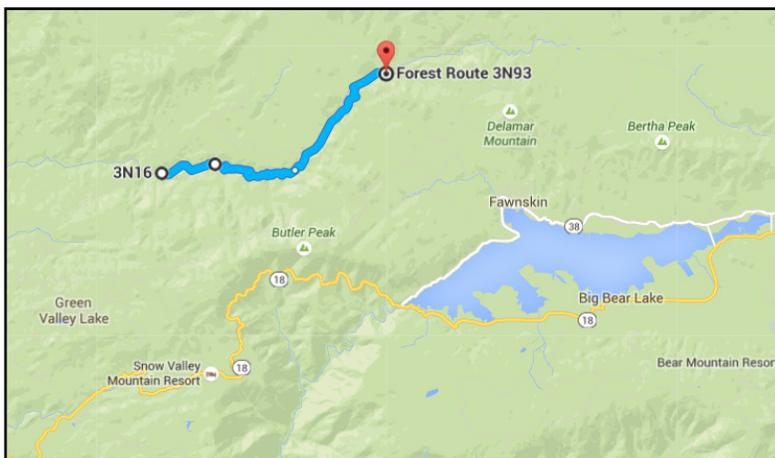
Kids on Public Lands We always need female drivers on Sunday. <http://www.sidekickoffroad.com/kopl.htm>



Holcomb Creek 3N93, Big Bear

Saturday Sept 26th

Trail Organizer: Jack & Zoe



RSVP: Yes, Cell 909-213-6787 or Email: sqca12@verizon.net

Trail Leader camping: No, day trip only.

Permits Required: Yes, Adventure Pass. Annual \$30 or day \$5, available at most grocery/gas stations, as well as Ranger stations and Discovery Center

Meeting Time: 8:30am. Go over rig readiness and plan, leave at 9am.

Meeting Location: Rocky's Roadhouse (32150 Hilltop Blvd, Running Springs, CA 92382) i.e. usual spot across from 76 gas station. From there, we will drive to Big Bear (north shore) Fawnskin area to 3N14 to Coxe Road.

Trail Description: 3N93 is a 6 mile trail. You can expect to encounter large boulders, tippy terrain and puddles and moguls on sections of the trail. The US Forest Service rates this trail a Black Diamond Most Difficult trail and it is not recommended for stock SUVs. Body damage and breakage are possible. Elevation ranges from 5600' to over 6500'. Wet tires add to the difficulty as the trail crosses Holcomb Creek in a few areas.

Difficulty: (1=Easy, 5=Most Difficult) Rated 5, due to the last 2 boulder fields (i.e. most of the trail is easy). There is a bypass route around these rock gardens but it's a separate trail (2N06X). The rest of the trail is rated 1 with a couple of 3 rated obstacles.

CB Channel: 4

Special Equipment Required: High ground clearance with limited slip or lockers, 33 inch tires or larger recommended but not required. We have seen stock jeeps make it with some damage. Tire damage is always a possibility. A good spare is required.

Bring: Bring lunch and extra water, chairs, basic tools, shovel, camera, extra weather appropriate clothing, etc.

Weather: If it's raining the trip will be canceled.

Trail Head Coordinates:

Start: 3N14 is N34° 18.027 W116° 58.940

Finish: 3N16 is N34° 16.521 W117° 03.049

Departure: We will join up to 3N16 at Crab Flats and head towards Green Valley/Running Springs at Highway 18.

October

2nd Wrightwood Willys-Jeep Day

Short cut:

http://cal4wheel.com/events/calendar/g-1-sqmeffvse2sml76httn641p90o_201510031600

3th & 4th Off Road Expo Pomona

6th club meeting

9 – 11th Fun in the Desert

sponsored by Victor Valley 4 Wheelers & Cal 4 Wheel Means Dry Lake Johnson Valley, CA

16- 17 Operation Desert Fun

Ocotillo Wells Blue Inn The park service will not allow ODF to hold the event on public land because it of the endangered species act.



Online registration is now open! Only \$25 if you register by August 31.

www.cal4wheel.com/events/operation-desert-fun

17th Miller Jeep Trail (M) - Pete

24th Adopt A Trail - Lead TBD

November

3rd Monthly club meeting / 2016 run planning

6th - Black Canyon (E) - Ray

12th - 14th Panamint Valley Days (PVD),
Cal 4 Wheel event

We're celebrating 30 years of having fun in the Panamints with all your friends and family; all those great sunrises and sunsets. All those flyovers, the rain, the snow, and W, the great starfield at night, really seeing the Milky Way. All this makes Panamint Valley Days so fun and great to spend time with all your friends and family.

For full info and resistration:

http://cal4wheel.com/panamint-valley-days?utm_source=CA4WDA+Updates&utm_campaign=04e69c8669-barrett-lake-reopen-07-27-15&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_d30f6c948f-04e69c8669-85608049&mc_cid=04e69c8669&mc_eid=e64d42a631

December

1st Monthly club meeting

5th Calico Run Leader Ron Webber

Guests

1. Eric Dow – '15 JK

2. Mike and Nancy Zelle 2014 JK
3. Ron and Debbie Robinson 2015 JK
4. Kevin Graff 2015 JK

Classified

New Complete Dana 30 axles shafts a little rust. keep a spare with you at all times, just in case was in my 2000 TJ (until I upgraded) should fit '97 – 2006 maybe others that I don't know about.



\$50. Each, driver and passenger side.

contact Ron Webber 714 715 5692 or ronjp@outlook.com

Free Alternator from 2000 TJ stock swapped out for one with higher amperage at about 40k miles



Free contact Ron Webber 714 715 5692 or ronjp@outlook.com

Free Oil pan skid plate John Bull trail tested.



Free contact Ron Webber 714 715 5692 or ronjp@outlook.com

Club info

Meeting Place

First Tuesday of each month,
6:30pm for Dinner & 7:30pm for the meeting at
just east of Imperial Hwy and north of the 91 Fwy.
Marie Callenders. 5711 East La Palma Ave., Anaheim,
CA 92807, 714-779-0600

Club officers

President: Ray Kleinhuizen

kkfusedglass@roadrunner.com

Immediate past president:

Jesse May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Vice President: Mike Wallace proudpop80@gmail.com

Secretary: Cheryl May: jemay.xj@gmail.com

Treasurer: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Web Master: Chris Slaughter:

webmaster@dirtdevils.org

Adopt a trail chairmans:

Roy Chance: rchance@aol.com

Roger Mauer: rogermauer@gmail.com

Newsletter: Ron Webber: ronjp@outlook.com

Hospitality: Emi Webber: emiwebber@hotmail.com

Safety Committee: Bill Smith:

Run Coordinator: Rick Walter rick03tj@gmail.com

Emergency response team coordinator: Rick Walter
rick03tj@gmail.com

the emergency response team makes themselves
available to help with our adopt a trail Dish Pan.

CAL4 wheel reps: Jesse May and Keith Graham

Club membership

Membership dues:

Dirt Devil annual club dues\$36.00

Spouse.....\$12.00

CAL4WD annual dues\$45.00

CAL4WD permanent member\$675.00

CAL4WD permanent member 12 installments of ...\$56.25

CORVA\$30.00

<http://cal4wheel.com/>

Accessories

Available at the regular meetings, see Emi Webber.

Dirt Devil Stickers: \$15.00.

Short sleeve shirts: \$15.00

Long sleeve shirts: \$18.00

Sweatshirts: \$30.00

Hats: \$20.00

DD logo magnets available in various sizes for
\$4.50 to \$13.50 each.

Awards



CAL 4 Wheel Drive, new member award

Newsletter advertising

\$25 for ¼ page ad, for 3 issues

\$50 for a ½ page ad, for 3 issues

\$100 for a full page ad, for 3 issues.

A full page ad also gets a Web Link.

First aid kit tracking

FA #1 (red, blue backpack)

Danny Ward

Ray Kleinhuizen

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

Ron Webber November 2014

Ray Kleinhuizen July 2014

FA #2 (Orange canvas bag)

Mike Wallace

Josh Bleijenberg

Pete Johnson

Josh Bleijenberg corral cyn then handing off to Pete

Ray Kleinhuizen

Danny Ward

Josh Bleijenberg April 2014

Roger Mauer Feb 2014

FA #3 (Orange canvas bag)

Roger Mauer

Danny Ward

Ron Webber March 2015 Calico

Rick Walters July 2014

Pete Johnson April 2014

Ron Webber March 2014 Calico

Run report template:

Run name:
 Run leader:
 Date:
 Number of rigs:
 Participants:
 Members:
 Guest:
 The story:
 Weather:
 Cow bells earned:

Run announcement template

Research and/or Pre-run the trail route.

Create and Post a Run Announcement

When emailing the run announcement: Please, use the words "Run Announcement" in the Subject line of the message, forward to the webmaster and newsletter editor.

Date/Time and Place for the Run

Description of Run

Difficulty Rating

Run Type: Base Camp, Day Run

Directions to Meeting Place.

EXACT Departure Time from Meeting Place

Required Equipment. Open dif ? Lockers?

Is RSVP Required?

CB Channel channel 4, if to much traffic then switch to 5 and so on.

HAMM channel 146.440

Camping Location/ Directions/ Details/ Facilities/ Fees.
 Access for motor homes?

Contact Information (Run Leader
 Phone Number & email address)

Day of the Run:

Hold brief driver's gathering before start of run. Include special instructions.

Assign vehicle order if there are vehicles with open diffs. Have vehicle with locked diff in front & behind. (If possible disperse vehicles with HAM radios near the front, middle and rear of the line.

Encourage drivers to learn the name of the person in front and behind his/her vehicle.

Assign Tail Gunner Vehicle

After returning home forward to the newsletter editor a Run Report and a few photos. subject line write "Run Report"

DD Trail Ratings

Trail ratings are subjective and weather conditions over the years can change a trail. An easy trail can become more difficult after or during rain. The trail leader needs

to be the final judge of trail conditions the day of the run. If any part of a trail is difficult the trail is rated difficult. If difficult sections have bypasses the trail may be suitable for less capable rigs or less experienced drivers.

E - Easy (Black Canyon, Mohave Trail)

M - Moderate (Devils Loop, Miller Jeep Trail)

D - Difficult (John Bull, Calico)

(E) Easy trails could include these conditions:

- Any dirt, sand or gravel road.
- Gentle to mildly steeper hill climbs, mild rocky sections and/or soft sandy sections.
- Four wheel drive may not be necessary all the time.
- Pot holes or ruts that require high ground clearance.
- Water crossings are up to 15 inches deep.
- Suitable for full size vehicles.
- Low gears may be required on hill climbs.
- Recommend 4 wheel drive vehicle
- Suitable for most tire sizes

(M) Moderate trails could include these conditions::

- Steep rutted and rocky hill climbs that require careful tire placement.
- Two to three foot ledges to climb and/or steep down hill drop offs.
- Rocky sections that can cause body or rim damage.
- Water crossings might have rocks and could be deeper then 12 inches.
- Brush or cactus may touch vehicle.
- These trails will require low range gears, high ground clearance and 4WD.
- Skid plates and body protection are recommended.
- Minimum 33 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend at least one axle locker.

(D) Difficult trails could include these conditions:

- Rocks as big as your tire to as big as your vehicle.
- Hill climbs are steep and may require extended wheel travel.
- These trails can have long sections of large rocks that require careful tire placement. .
- Three + foot ledges to climb and steep drop offs.
- Body damage is possible and brush may scratch vehicle.
- These trails will require vehicle modifications such as suspension lifts, body protection and skid plates.
- Minimum 35 inch or bigger tires.
- Recommend front and rear axle lockers.

Adopt a Trail

The Dirt Devils Adopt A Trail is: Dishpan Springs Trail (3N34)

Dishpan Springs Trail can be found in the San Bernardino National Forest near Lake Arrowhead.

The Dishpan Springs Trail is one of the toughest and most popular trails in the SBNF.

The West entrance:

2N26Y is N34° 16.198 W117° 08.258.

The T6 Bridge:

N34° 16.106 W117° 07.745.

The East entrance:

3N16 is N34° 15.663 W117° 05.116.

Meeting place

8:30am at Rock Road House

32150 Hilltop Blvd Running Springs, CA 92382 next to the 76 gas station

Adopt a trail Current hours – 192

Cowbells



The cow bell rules are: If you get stuck and are unable to move under your own power and need the help of a winch or you get strapped from one of your fellow jeepers then you have earned the privilege of hanging a cow bell from your front bumper. You must leave the cow bell on the front of your rig until another Dirt Devil gets stuck then, you can proudly hand it over. This starts at the beginning and the end of the trail, not on the highway.



Old logo green bell

Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 4/10/15

Josh Bleijenberg Dusy Ersham Sept 2014



Brown bell

Bill Smith HDR May25 2015

Tim Debolt Rattlesnake Feb 2015

Rick Walter adopt a trail 6/27/2014

Josh Bleijenberg Corral Canyon 5/4/2014



Little Blue bell

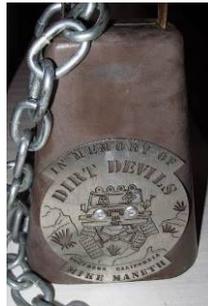
Bill Smith HDR May25 2015 winched Bronco on to trailer

Gilbert at Corral Canyon 4/10/15

Chris Slaughter Grizzly

Rick Walter

Mike Wallace



Mike Maneth memorial bell

Frank Gilliland John Bull 6/27/2015

Mike Wallace Corral Canyon 4/10/15

James Eddinger Claw Hammer 1/10/15.

Castulo Olivas